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ABSTRACT

This book is based on the premise that learning in young children takes place through participation in purposeful activity and the learning process includes building on what children already know and enabling children to take responsibility for their own learning. It focuses not just on recent pedagogical developments in science, but shows, through teachers' own stories of life and living processes, materials and their properties, physical processes, and scientific investigations, how these areas can be integrated into children's learning. Section A, The Challenge of Teaching and Learning in Science, contains the following chapters: (1) "Approaches to Teaching and Learning in Science" (Marilyn Fleer); (2) "Science in Early Childhood" (Maulfry Hayton); and (3) "Science From a Child's Perspective" (Jonathan Osborne). Section B, Developing Teaching Strategies, includes the following chapters: (4) "Children Making Paper Planes" (Sue Atkinson); (5) "Talking it Through: Young Children Thinking Science" (Maulfry Hayton); and (6) "Starting Science From Talking, Listening, and Questioning" (Rosemary Stickland). Section C, Teachers' Stories, includes the following chapters: (7) "Developing Children's Understanding of Their Bodies" (Careen Leslie); (8) "Putting the Green Back Into Plants" (Vicky Bresnan); (9) "A Moving Experience" (Marita Corra); (10) "Straight Bits and Bendy Bits: An Exploration of Paper Bridges" (Lindsey Weimers); (11) "Exploring Telephones" (Jan Elliot); (12) "Science From a Building Site" (Sue Atkinson); (13) "Exploring Outer Space" (Karina Sargeson); (14) "Helping to Save our Planet" (Karina Sargeson); (15) "Them Bones, Them Bones are Not All Dry!" (Mary Sofo); (16) "What Is the University Made Of?" (Jan Elliot); and (17) "Rock Week" (Jill Jesson). Section D, A Practical Approach, includes the following chapters: (18) "How Can I Organize Myself?" (Sue Atkinson); (19) "Writing a Primary Science Policy" (Graham Peacock); (20) "Assessment and Achievement" (Shirley Clarke); (21) "Getting Better at Investigations" (Robin Smith); and (22) "Conclusions" (Sue Atkinson). Contains 53 references. (JRH)